Regulation, a tenant of the Edapalli Chief had as much right as the holder of a Government land in regard to royal trees, the Chief was appropriating the tenant's share of the value also without any justification.

Past history of the Edavaka would reveal that it was mismanaged for a long time and that the Government had in 1056 assumed its management and after a stipulated period handed over the management back to the Chief. But it has since been mismanaged again. The people have been representing their grievances to the Government and the Chief through memorials and deputations and representations in the Assembly and the Legislative Council. Unrest prevailed among the people; but they have faith in the Government and the Sovereign in setting matters right. The Government have the inherent right to interfere in the affairs of the Edavaka and the member therefore requested the Government to assume management of the Edavaka, the revenue administration of the several *pakuthies* being entrusted to the Tahsildars concerned and the Chief given an annual payment in lieu of the rent due. He concluded by saying that early action be taken in the matter.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Varghese, Government, I believe, are at present unable to order the conversion of the paddy tax into cash payment without the consent of the Edapalli Chief. The remedy will be for the Edavaka tenants to make a representation to the Chief.

As regards the other defects and grievances pointed out, the Land Revenue Commissioner has made certain proposals to remedy them and they are under consideration. Personally, I hope, I shall be able to tour in that neighbourhood shortly.

MEMBER: I would request that pressure be brought to bear on the Chief to accept the suggestions that I have made.

DEWAN: I shall also try to meet him, as soon as I can.

5. Remission of tax on rubber lands.

Mr. S. N. URE (*Mundakayam Planters' Association*) said that, on the 28th July 1931, the Government published an order R. Dis. No. 1039/31/Revenue, dated the 23rd July 1931, in which they sanctioned a reduction, until further orders, of the tax on rubber lands from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 per acre in all cases in which the tax was recovered at the former rate, and made this concession applicable to the tax due for 1106 also. But this order was interpreted differently by different Revenue officers. In view of the serious financial position of the rubber industry, and the need for careful budgeting for the next year, the member requested that the Government might give a ruling as regards the lands to which the order was applicable, so that the rubber companies might know how they stood in the matter of remission of taxes.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ure, I am sure Government will be very pleased to give the ruling that you ask for if your Association will give definite ways in which that may be done.

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MEMBER: One method is to grant remission of tax on waste lands.

DEWAN: If you will write and give me your representation, I shall give you a definite ruling.

MEMBER Yes, I shall write and give you.

6. Tiruppuvaram payments and assignment of porambokes.

MR. NARAYANARU KRISHNARU (*Jenmies, Trivandrum Division, Group II*) said that when *jenmam* properties enjoyed by *kudiyans* escheated to the Government, the *michavaram* till then paid by them to the *Jenmies* came to be paid by the Government. This was the origin of *tiruppuvaram* payments. When such properties escheated to the Government, their tenure also was changed, with the result that the *jenmies* lost certain of their rights such as *adukkuvatu* and other dues in respect of those lands. At the last Settlement, some of the Settlement officers inadvertently reduced the *tiruppuvaram* charged on certain lands, when their *pattam* was revised. As a result of repeated representations by the *Jenmies*, the Government were pleased to order in their Proceedings No. 13027, dated the 6th December 1912, that the *Jenmies* should be paid the *tiruppavaram* according to the pre-Settlement records, that the *tiruppu* should be attached to the lands and paid from the *pattam* available and that the balance with arrears for 12 years at the prevailing *nirak* rates should also be paid with the interest thereon. There had been decisions of the High Court also to the above effect in the past. But recently these decisions were ignored and the High Court had given a new ruling as regards the *nirak* rate in A. S. No. 551/of 1104. This ruling set at nought the provisions of the Proclamation of 1061 and the orders of 1081 regarding the commutation rates fixed for converting paddy assessment into money. The effect of the new ruling was that the commutation rate was reduced while at the same time it involved a large amount of loss to the Government. The member therefore prayed that the rulings in the appeal case referred to above and in other cases decided on the basis of that decision should be set aside.

The next point urged by the member was about the difficulties experienced by the general public in regard to *porambokes*. At the time of demarcation during the last Settlement, the demarcation stones were planted within the limits of registered holdings adjacent to rivers, canals and other *porambokes*. This was done in order that the stones might not be washed away or misplaced. But subsequently the strips of land between the actual boundaries of the *porambokes* and the boundaries as marked by the stones planted were treated as *porambokes*, and the occupants thereof asked to pay fine, prohibitory assessment or *kuttakapattam*. Similarly, the tanks, roads, etc., adjoining Devaswoms and Brahmaswoms were also treated as *porambokes* although this was not warranted by the pre-Settlement records. This was hard. The member therefore prayed that the necessary orders might be issued for assigning the lands of the class referred to above either to the occupants or to the Devaswoms or Brahmaswoms, as the case may be.

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